(c) and (d) The procedure for environmental clearance is reviewed from time to time in order to further streamline the process and make the decision making process simpler, time bound and more transparent.

New Pollution Control Laws

1108. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the centre has studied the impact of Himachal Pradesh Non-biodegradable Garbage Control Act, 1996, Himachal Pradesh Government Special Ordinance, on keeping Manali Town area free of pollution and environmental hazards:

(b) if so, the findings thereon; and

(c) whether the Centre would consider enactment of similar laws to protect Urban/Industrial conglomerations all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh, powers have been vested with the local authority including Nagar Panchayat for removal of non-biodegradable garbage under the provisions of Non-Biodegradable garbage (Control) Act, 1995. Accordingly the Nagar Panchayat Manali has imposed ban on the use of Polythene bags. The Nagar Panchayat has also initiated a scientific project with the help of Norwegian Government and has started door-do-door collection of garbage. Further, the State Council for Science, Technology and Environment have organised workshop on the solid waste management in October, 2002 for increasing public awareness.

(c) Central Government has formulated and issued a comprehensive Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 under the powers conferred by section 3, 6 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986). Under these rules every municipal authority has been made responsible for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes in the country.

Death of Trees in Delhi

1109. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to various studies conducted by Kalpavriksh and